

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT DDR Railroad Tank Car Situation

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. As of mid-summer 1951, there were approximately 12,000 tank cars in the DDR. The German State Railway is presently attempting to count and register all tank cars.

2. Of the estimated total of 12,000 tank cars, all are constructed of iron except for 196 aluminum tank cars and 11 stainless steel tank cars.
3. The estimated total of 12,000 tank cars may be divided into the following categories according to the commodity being transported:

a. Approximately 7,500 tank cars are used for transporting gasoline, diesel fuel and all kinds of fuel such as paraldehyde, solvents, benzol, ethyl benzol, kerosene, etc.

b. Approximately 350 tank cars are used for transporting alcohol and technical alcohol.

c. Approximately 200 tank cars are used for transporting food oils.

d. Approximately 2500 tank cars are used for transporting acids, of which 2000 tank cars are used for transporting sulfuric acid and 500 tank cars are used for transporting nitric acid, hydrochloric acid and other acids of similar strength and effect.

e. Approximately 150 tank cars are used to transport motor fuel (Treibgas).

f. Approximately 14 tank cars are used to transport oxygen. (1)

4. The estimated total of 12,000 tank cars may be divided into the following sizes:

3,000 tank cars of 13.5 metric tons (15,000 liters)  
1,000 tank cars of 15 metric tons (18,000 liters)  
3,500 tank cars of 17 metric tons (19,200 liters)

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2,500 tank cars of 15 metric tons (22,500 liters)  
 1,500 tank cars of 21 metric tons (30,000 liters)  
 15 tank cars of 36 metric tons (48,000 liters)  
 480 tank cars of 44 metric tons (63,000 liters) (2)

For accounting purposes, 15 metric tons is considered an average load, while the 44 metric ton tank cars are considered as two tank cars.

5. Of the estimated 12,000 tank cars in the DDR:

11,400 tank cars have two axles  
 35 " " " three "  
 825 " " " four "  
 6 " " " six "

6. Of the estimated 12,000 tank cars in the DDR:

- a. Approximately 6,100 belong to the Tank Car Office (Kesselwagen Leitstelle) of the German State Railway.
- b. About 2,500 belong to the SAG's. (3)
- c. About 900 belong to the Tank Car Office and are rented on a monthly basis to the SAG's.
- d. Approximately 2,500 belong to the German State Railways but are under the administrative control of the Tank Car Office. (4). These cars, called from the Russian Zisternenwagen für Mineralölweiss, are used for DDR gasoline and diesel fuel shipments.
- e. About 500-700 are the property of private owners.

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7. Of the estimated 6,100 tank cars belonging to the Tank Car Office

makes the following report based on a preliminary counting:

Tank cars rented out (on a day to day basis)	5,749
P 200 cars (rented to Buna Werke for transporting paraldehyde from Buna Werke to USSR)	161
S 217 cars (rented to Böhlen for transporting aviation gasoline to USSR)	247
M 650 cars (for transporting Metanol from Leunawerke to USSR)	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,246</b>

PLUS

Special liquid oxygen tank cars	14
Mitag 3, Lhwag 1 )	
Oelbag 6, BSV Bochum 1)	11
	<b>6,271</b>

MINUS

Frd81 A.G. tank cars	114
unregistered tank cars	7
tank car chassis	<u>11</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>
Leaving a total of	<b>6,139 tank cars</b>

belonging to the Tank Car Office. Of this total,

5,273 tank cars have two axles  
 35 " " " three "  
 825 " " " four "  
 6 " " " six "

6,139

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Total value  
DM East

	<u>axles</u>	<u>each</u>	<u>Composition</u>	
4,662 regular tank cars	2	8,000	iron	37,296,000
196 " " "	2	16,500	aluminum	3,234,000
46 motor fuel (Treibgas)	2	26,000	iron	1,196,000
90 special sectional tank cars (Topfwagen) (5)	2	7,000	"	630,000
265 tank cars now used for shipping sand, cement, etc.	2	8,500	"	2,252,500
14 special oxygen tank cars	2	31,000	"	434,000
35 tank cars	3	9,300	"	325,500
666 tank cars	4	13,500	"	8,991,000
39 motor fuel (Treibgas)	4	30,855	"	1,203,345
120 tank cars now used for shipping sand, cement, etc.	4	14,500	"	1,740,000
6 motor fuel (Treibgas)	6	42,000	"	252,000

6,139

57,554,345 25X1

9. Of an estimated total of 2,500 tank cars, called Zisternenwagen für Mineralölweiss (ZMW)

	<u>Two axle</u>	<u>Four axle</u>	<u>Total</u>
On hand	2307	186	2493
Inoperative	118	6	124
Total count	2189	180	2369

In this total are included the 497 tank cars contained in the S 217, P 200 and M 650 categories. (6)

10.   tank cars are rented by the Tank Car Office on the following price scale:

69	DM East per 30 day month for regular two axle iron tank car
3	" " " day for two-axle aluminum tank car
4	" " " " two-axle lead lined tank car (of which there are 50)
4	" " " " two-axle sectional tank cars (Topfwagen)
2.65	" " " " two-axle acid car
7.30	" " " " regular four-axle tank car
9	" " " " four-axle stainless steel car
4.50	" " " " two-axle stainless steel tank car

11. The general condition of tank cars is fair, while the condition of acid cars varies from fair to poor.

12. It is probable that all fuel cars are unloaded in Brest since Russian locomotives are not well suited for pulling German cars. In the case of acid cars (which cannot be unloaded because of lack of acid unloading facilities in Brest), the wheel axles are extended to Russian gauge and adapted German locomotives are probably used to haul the acid cars to their destinations.

13. All fuels and chemicals being transported to the USSR are guarded by Russian soldiers and German Volkspolizei (wearing green patch with a white G).

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- 25X1 (1) [ ] Since at least 800 tank cars are constantly undergoing repairs, the low total figure in this estimate may be [ ] how many 25X1 tank cars are available for use on any given day).
- 25X1 (2) [ ]: The difference in ratio between metric tons and liters is attributed to the difference in specific gravity of liquid transported in tank cars).
- 25X1 (3) [ ]: It is anticipated that these tank cars will be registered with the Tank Car Office on approximately 15 September 1951).
- 25X1 (4) [ ]: It is anticipated that [ ] these tank cars will be 25X1 given to the Tank Car Office by the end of 1951).
- 25X1 (5) [ ] Sectional tank cars have 12 containers (Töpfe) containing 1200 liters each).
- (6) [ ] This duplication of the 497 tank cars for transport to USSR in both official documents appears to be a bookkeeping error).

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